Notes...from the Detailer

by CAPT Bob Burt, CHC, USN

Happy New Fiscal Year!! We're in the MONEY, we're in the MONEY, etc. Well, for a couple of months anyway. Actually, CDR Pugliese and I are going to have to demonstrate a lot of Detailer discipline if we are going to stretch our budget to meet the PCS needs of the Chaplain Corps for FY 03. We asked for \$3.5 million and are projected to receive only \$2.2 million for the year. We are welcoming extension requests at this time. Remember, when submitting your request, we will not sacrifice your need for professional development in order to save PCS money. If an extension works for you, us, the Corps and your command, we'll take a good look at the possibility. Last year, we executed 27 "no cost" moves. We're looking at 40-50 for this FY. Again, we'll leave you in the same geographical location only if it enhances your professional development.

For those 32 chaplains who were "bow-waved" into FY 03, we really regret having to extend you and deeply appreciate your understanding and flexibility. We know that for some it created family (school/spouse employment/housing) hardships and we apologize for the disruption. Thank you though, for being the example to the rest of those service members at your command who were also involuntarily extended.

We are in the process of notifying our FY 04 Funded Graduate Education (FGE) selectees. Congratulations to y'all! Pastoral Care Residency (PCR) is still available for two motivated chaplains coming off operational tours. Contact us ASAP!

We are excited about the upcoming PDTC schedule and the opportunity to brief you on current detailing issues and, more importantly, to meet with many of you on a one-to-one basis. As usual, we'll be present at each PDTC. We'll be easy to spot, we're the only chaplains with flak jackets on! God bless you!



Chaplain Burt with his flak jacket